



Open call for BOM Fellows 2019 - 2020

Expressions of Interest

DEADLINE: 5pm Friday 14th June 2019

Background

BOM is inviting proposals for new Fellows from October 2019 - October 2020. With access to a Fellows Incubator programme of tailored professional development, paid opportunities and 24-hour access to production and co-working space, this is an invaluable opportunity for creative practitioners working across art, technology and science. BOM Fellows are outstanding creative practitioners with a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach. They demonstrate clear commitment to social impact and / or outstanding potential for research impact at the intersection of art, technology and science. BOM Fellows contribute to a thriving collaborative culture through peer-to-peer support and skills sharing within a creative community. As such, they are expected to contribute at least one day a week to being physically based at BOM (or equivalent), and actively contribute to a positive, supportive and inspiring ecology.

This is an incredibly exciting time to be working with BOM, we celebrate our 5th birthday in November 2019 and we are continuing to deliver exciting and stimulating exhibition and engagement programmes. We're looking for high quality proposals to build on our existing Fellows community and support experimental and impactful new practice.

We are also delighted to be able to offer our new access fund for practitioners who are autistic. This fund allows Fellows the opportunity to benefit from everything our Fellows Incubator programme offers and extra access funds, research and development opportunities.

BOM Vision

Established in Birmingham city centre in 2014, BOM is forging a new model of radical practice at the intersection of art, technology and science with measurable social impact. By making sustained investment in a community of Fellows and developing strategic projects and partnerships, we test pioneering ideas that investigate the transformative value of the arts across education, health and society. BOM is born from hacker culture. Because diversity matters to us personally, we take an activist role in proactively addressing barriers to cultural participation through creative programs, particularly for those at risk of exclusion. We believe that the arts should value participation over all else, and that investing in the right people with the right support is key to developing transformational

practices that enable society to fully participate in culture. We ground our unique vision on an assertion of people, practice and participation:

Invest in People

Create Practice

Re-think Participation

Our community of Fellows is a group of artists, technologists, scientists, producers and researchers who all fuel (and are fuelled by) BOM's ethos, and help us to deliver our vision.

Fellows Incubator

Fellows work with BOM for a minimum of 12 months with access to an Incubator Programme of mentoring and creative development support. This includes free access to space and professional networks, legal, professional and business expertise and a range of paid opportunities. In contrast to the popular 'tech accelerator' model, the BOM Fellows Incubator is a decelerator, providing opportunities to focus in on a key area of work, playtest and collaborate with a range of communities with paid opportunities. This enables practitioners to consider value of their work across education, health and society. Fellows do this at the same time as developing their business model and exploring the commercial potential of their ideas. This is a highly personalised experience for those taking part, and requires Fellows to approach the year with an open mind and commitment to pushing their practice into new and uncertain directions. Unlike other business support programmes, the BOM Fellow Incubator has an onus on practice and participation over product. BOM's approach enables practitioners to develop their work in meaningful ways, stay inspired and develop sustainable practices.

The BOM Fellows Incubator model gives practitioners a tailored package of support and opportunities with access to:

Paid commissions, exhibitions, engagement and outreach work

Mentoring, curatorial and production support

Business support when developing new business models

Access to legal expertise and introductions from BOM's Board and affiliated networks

Tailored sessions on financial planning and input to funding applications

Tailored sessions on IP and partnership agreements

Engagement and outreach training, support and DBS checks

BOM's professional and curatorial networks

Advocacy and promotion

Internal and external collaboration opportunities

24hr access to BOM's studios and co-working spaces

A research expenses budget to cover costs or travel and participation in key events to support your practice

Proposals

As part of our new access fund, we would like to make this process more inclusive and accessible. We generally accept expressions of interest as written statements but we would like to hear from you if you would like to apply in a way that is more suited to your neurology / practice / ability. Please email claire@bom.org.uk to let us know how you might express your interest.

Expressions of interest should outline your planned work from October 2019 –October 2020, and how you feel this aligns with BOM's values.

Your expression of interest should include the following:

A single 'ready to publish' statement that summarises your work and how this relates to BOM's vision

An overview of your aims and what you want to achieve in your work during 2019 – 2020, and how BOM can help you achieve this

Your collaborative approach, including previous examples of collaboration, and what you would bring to the BOM Fellows community

Details of partnerships or groups you would like to work with

A link to your website and / or other links where we can find examples of the quality of your previous works

Timescales

Please send expressions of interest to claire@bom.org.uk by Friday 14 June 2019, 5pm.

Applicants will be notified by Friday 21 June 2019.